forbidden or specific height has been recommended by the Authority or as per comprehensive plan/Zonal plan/Master Plan regulations.

People Below Poverty Line

5141. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Shri S.R. Hashim, Member Secretary of Lakdawala Committee constituted by the Government in 1989 has proved wrong the Government's claim that the people living below poverty line was only 19 percent during the year 1993-94;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that according to this Committee the percentage of people living below poverty line is about 37;

(c) if so, whether Government have found out any reasons to establish that the estimates of Shri Hashim were not based on facts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the estimated official figure regarding the people living below poverty line before the commencement of Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Prof. S.R. Hashim, in his Radha Kamal Mukherjee Memorial Lecture delivered on 23.5.1996 at New Delhi, has mentioned the percentage of the people below poverty line as 37 per cent in 1993-94 as against 19 per cent that had been estimated by the Planning Commission on the basis of the half sample data from the 50th round of the National Sample Survey Organisation's quinquennial survey on the Household Consumer Expenditure.

(b) The data necessary to estimate the percentage or people living below the poverty line in 1993-94 by the methodology suggested by the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (Lakdawala Committee) are not available.

(c) and (d) : The difference between the two estimates is due to the difference in the methodology of estimation.

(e) Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty using quinquennial survey data on Household Consumer Expenditure released by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The latest estimates of poverty is available for the year 1987-88, based on the Household Consumer Expenditure data collected in the 43rd round of NSSO. The full results of NSSO consumer expenditure data of 1993-94 are under process.

Buildings on Agricultural Land

5142. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 2151 dated December 21, 1994 regarding residential buildings on agricultural land and state:

(a) the number of cases out of 4335 cases final orders to reconvert the said land to agricultural use under section 81 Delhi Land Reforms Act 1954 have been passed so far and the details thereof; and

(b) the number of cases in which vacant possession of land has been handed over to the concerned gram sabha, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have reported that out of 4335 cases, final orders in 2714 cases have been passed under Section 81 of the Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 to convert the said land to agricultural use.

(b) In 35 cases either the built-up properties have been sealed or possession has been taken over by the Gram Sabha. The remaining cases are held up because of pending court cases and other legal formalities.

Foreign Funds to Terrorists

5143. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any concrete evidence has been found about the flow of foreign funds to finance terrorism and secessionist activities in Jammu and Kashmir during the past three years; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether notices were issued to certain secessionist leader of Kashmir in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether some foreign funds had come to Kashmir for reconstruction of the holy shrine or Charar-e-Shrief, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken to check the flow of foreign money for subversive activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (e) There have been reports of various secessionist leaders and organisations in Jammu and Kashmir having received large sums of money from diverse channels and sources in contravention of law, including reports about the receipt of funds for the Shrine at Chrar-e-Sharief. Notices have so far been issued to 46 individuals and 24 organisations under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA). Action on these notices, as also for violation of the provisions of Foreign Exchange and Regulation (Act) (FERA) and other relevant laws is being taken by the concerned agencies.

It will not be in the interest of ongoing inquiries/ investigations to disclose more details at this stage.

[Translation]

Transport Duty

5144. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the transport duty is being charged from the Rajasthan State Government to carry the nitrogen gas upto the plant which is used as inert gas for the Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Plant;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken so far to fix the prices of gas at reasonable rate for this area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Transportation charges are payable for the natural gas being supplied to the Ramgarh Thermal Power Plant of which nitrogen gas is a component.

(c) The Ramgarh Power Plant is entitled to a reduction in the gas price on account of lower calorific value. A discount of 15% has been allowed in addition to the above reduction.

[English]

Land Oustees

5145. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether NHPC acquired agriculture land for the setting up of Loktak Power project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the compensation has been paid and rehabilitation of such land oustees has been completed; and

(d) if so, the criteria adopted by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Agricultural land to the extent of 244.18 acres was acquired between 1971 to 1979 through the Government of Manipur under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 for setting up of Loktak Power project.

(c) and (d) Full compensation as decided by the Government of Manipur was paid to be owners of the affected land by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation.

[Translation]

Representation of Muslims

5146. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to give adequate representation to Muslims in Government services and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution provide, *inter-alia*, for equality of opportunity to all citizens in matters relating to employment under the State. Various measures for improving recruitment of minorities, including Muslims, are envisaged under the 15-Point Programme for welfare of minorities. Some of the salient follow-up steps initiated in this regard are :—

(i) nomination of a member belonging to minorities on Selection Committees/Boards for making recruitment to Group 'C'/'D' posts;

(ii) arrangements for imparting pre-recruitment training to the minorities;

(iii) giving wide publicity to vacancies in Government sector in Urdu newspapers;

(iv) monitoring the intake of minority community in recruitment;

(v) undertaking special drives in minority areas for recruitment to Central Police forces; and

(vi) inclusion of certain Muslim communities in the list of Other Backward Classes for whom reservation in Govt. jobs has been provided.